

THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT:

The Official Journal of the Association of Assistant Librarians.

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EDITORIALS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Amalgamation of the Library Association and the Association of Assistant Librarians has now been definitely approved of by the majority of our members, although we think it lamentable that 40 per cent. were not sufficiently interested to register their votes. The final details and working arrangements have still to be definitely scheduled, and a Committee will probably be formed to go into the points still requiring settlement at the earliest opportunity. We think the step the Association is taking is one in the right direction, and although it may be difficult for some who have grown up with the A.A.L. to see exactly how assistants will gain from amalgamation, yet if the whole question is reviewed with the objective clearly defined, we think that few will deny the great possibilities which now lie in front of the united associations. If the members of this Association had turned amalgamation down, there is no doubt that the outlook for the Library Association would have been serious; what many opponents of union failed to see, was that this would have proved to be as serious for the Assistant as for the Chief Librarian. Every worker in the Library profession will gain by belonging to a united association with a steady and enhanced income. Nobody with a sense of justice can grumble at the terms of amalgamation, and although we sacrifice our identity, we have obtained more representation on the Council; and even should the A.A.L. Section of the

L.A. eventually cease to exist, yet the more important position that the L.A. will take up in the near future must favourably influence every member.

Many of our members have retentive memories for the various pettinesses and the discourteous conduct they have suffered at the hands of their chiefs, and other members of the Library Association. Here, most probably, lies the reason for their present violent views about the L.A. Others, who have had the luck to work under chiefs who are gentlemen, are sometimes amazed at the bad influence, from a professional and associational point of view, that a bad chief can have on his staff. It is common knowledge that some of the most highly respected members of the Library Association have so little gentility, courtesy and culture, and their conduct towards their staffs is so outrageously petty, that few who know them intimately can respect them. But we would remind assistants that they have in their own section men and women of exactly the same calibre, who, if they ever gain a chiefship, will act in exactly the same way. The L.A. must not be mistrusted because some of its members are foolish and unmannerly; it has, on the other hand, every right to be trusted because of the extreme courtesy and just views of most of the members of the present Council. If the attitude of those responsible for the L.A. side of the amalgamation negotiations is an earnest of the future conduct of the United Library Association, then we would say—"All's Well."

Examinations and Correspondence Classes.—The attention of those interested is drawn to the Revision Correspondence Course which this Association will hold for those taking the December examinations. A full announcement giving particulars, appears elsewhere in this issue. We would urge all members who fail in the June examinations to take this Revision Course, for their needs have been strictly kept in view in its preparation. One tutor reports 100 per cent. successes in his section. This is encouraging, to say the least, and should hearten those who experience difficulty in qualifying.

The Next Meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, September 18th.

The June Council of the Association appointed the following Committees:

Finance and General Purposes.—Mr. G. F. Vale (Chairman), Miss Baker, Miss Stubbs, Messrs. Bussey, Hayward, Mourant, Webb, and F. E. Sandry (Hon. Secretary).

Press and Publications.—Miss G. Rees (Chairman), Miss Gerard, Miss Wragg, Messrs. Hunt, Hurford, Snaith, Woods and F. Seymour Smith (Hon. Secretary).

Education and Library.—Mr. J. G. O'Leary (Chairman), Miss Appleby, Miss Exley, Miss Toms, Messrs. Austing, Muskett, Patrick, Richards, and R. Hilton Smith (Hon. Secretary).

Benevolent Fund.—The President, Vice-President, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, Miss Rees, Messrs. Bussey, Vale and Webb.

Classes for Assistants.—Mr. F. E. Sandry (Chairman), The President, Vice-President, Hon. Editor, Hon. Secretary, Mr. Hilton Smith and Miss Exley (Hon. Secretary).

The Secretary was appointed the delegate of the Association at the Brighton Conference; the Editor the delegate at the ASLIB Conference at Cambridge, and the representative of the A.A.L. on the London Public Libraries Union Catalogue Committee.

The Brighton Conference will be historical because it will usher in the commencement of a period of unity which we hope will be lengthy and productive of good results. We are sorry the Annual Business Meeting of the L.A. is on Thursday, Sept. 12th, for if it had been possible to make it one day earlier no doubt large numbers of Assistant Librarians would have been able to spend the day at Brighton in order to attend the meeting. However, we trust that as many as possible will attend.

The Union Catalogue of the non-fiction books in the London Libraries will in a few years, thanks to the Carnegie Trust, be an actuality. Dreamt of for thirty years, it will before long be in working order. The generous support of the Carnegie Trust was warmly praised at the meeting of the delegates from the Metropolitan Borough Councils which took place recently at the Swedenborg Hall. The delegates, both Councillors and Librarians, were unanimously in favour of the scheme and signified their intention of persuading their respective Councils to give the task of compilation active help. The Carnegie Trust have granted the sum of £1,050 to meet initial expenses, and £850 a year for three years, with a prospect of a fourth and fifth grant if these are necessary. Mr. Thomas Gorrie, the Convener of the Library Sub-Committee of the Carnegie Trust, was good enough to take the chair at

the Conference, and Col. Luxmore Newcombe, to whom the scheme owes so much that it should always be inseparably connected with him, was on the platform to answer questions from the delegates.

The following resolution, amongst others, was passed: "That a General Committee, to be known as the London Public Libraries Union Catalogue Committee be appointed, and that the Committee consist of: one representative appointed by each of the thirty libraries concerned; one by the London and Home Counties Branch of the Library Association, one by the Association of Assistant Librarians, one by the Central Library for Students, and one or more by the Carnegie Trustees."

L'Association des Bibliothécaires Français will shortly publish at Paris a volume entitled *Code Administratif des Bibliothèques d'Etude*, par M. Ernest Coyecque. The subscription price of 65 francs will be raised to 80 francs on publication. Subscription forms can be obtained from the Association, at 8, Place du Pantheon, Paris, 5.

York Public Library, as illustrated in the *Architect and Building News* for June 7th, is one of the best planned buildings of recent years. The site has been taken full advantage of and the general effect, so far as one can judge from the ground floor plan, is efficient, balanced and economical. The City Librarian, Mr. Arthur H. Furnish, is to retire shortly, and if the City Council approve of the recommendation of the Libraries Committee, the present Deputy Librarian, Mr. A. Finney, will be promoted.

The Scottish Library Association held their annual conference at St. Andrew's last month. Mr. Ernest A. Savage is the new President, and his presidential address was widely reported in the Scottish press. Taking the latter for our authority, Mr. Savage stated that although mechanism has triumphed over the older European culture, yet in these days more pure literature was read than in former times. He deplored the lack of bibliographical training in the modern school; noticed Sanderson of Oundle as one of the greatest headmasters of his time, and emphasised the importance of thorough classification, cataloguing, and indexing, in order that all the available material in the library should exhibit itself to the reader. It was a wise and dignified address before an important meeting, and we are glad it received the publicity it did.

The New Cricklewood District Library was opened by Lord Riddell on Saturday, the 8th June. The site was pre-

sented by the Warden and Fellows of All Souls College, Oxford, and is pleasantly situated opposite a park. The building is in the modern Georgian style and provides a Lending Department, a charming Children's Room, a Reference Department, and a Reading Room. The furniture and fittings, executed by Libraco, Ltd., are in Columbian pine, finished silver grey. This gives a most pleasant and restful effect, and to our mind, was a welcome change from Austrian oak. The majority of those present, however, seemed doubtful of its wearing qualities. Mr. F. E. Chennell is to be congratulated in general on the forward policy of the Libraries Committee under his guidance, and in particular, on this latest example of their desire to provide the almost autonomous districts of Willesden with separate library facilities. He is also to be congratulated, we think, on his Librarian-in-Charge, Mr. J. B. Purdie. Mr. Purdie is one of the most respected of what we might call the "younger Glasgow school" of Librarians, and we look forward to the time when the A.A.L. will be able to go to Cricklewood for one of their meetings, when we hope Mr. Purdie will be persuaded to address the meeting.

The result of the election for the Officers and Council, 1929-30, is as follows:

OFFICERS.

President—Mr. R. Cooper, Battersea.

Vice-President—Mr. L. Chubb, Birmingham.

Honorary Editor—Mr. F. Seymour Smith, Hornsey.

Honorary Treasurer—Mr. F. E. Sandry, West Ham.

Honorary Secretary—Mr. Gurner P. Jones, Stepney.

COUNCIL.

Divisional Representatives.

Eastern Counties—Mr. G. Hayward, Norwich.

Midland—Mr. V. Woods, Birmingham.

North-Eastern—Mr. W. E. Hurford, Newcastle.

North-Western—Miss E. Stubbs, Liverpool.

South-Eastern—Miss E. Gerard, Worthing.

South-Western—Mr. H. Mourant, Southampton.

Yorkshire—Miss E. E. Wragg, West Riding County.

LONDON: Vale, G. F., Bethnal Green, 510; Smith R. D. H., Hendon, 478; Hunt, K. G., Tottenham, 446; O'Leary, J. G., Bethnal Green, 439; Exley, Miss, St. Marylebone, 430; Rees, Miss, Fulham, 428; Austing, A. T., Ilford, 414; Snaith, S., Islington, 378; Bussey, F. T., Hackney, 359; Appleby, Miss, Richmond, 337. *Not elected:* Fairweather, Miss, Kingston, 291; Summerfield, J. V., Richmond, 263; Gray, H., Stepney, 234; Martin, S. W., Lambeth, 223.

NON-LONDON: Webb, A., Brighton, 498; Patrick, J., Birmingham, 396; Muskett, T. W., 384; Baker, Miss M., 380; Richards, F. A., 328. *Not elected*: Howarth, R., Warrington, 300; Blackman, A. J., Reading, 259.

The result of the ballot on Amalgamation is as follows:

Total Ballot Papers issued.—1135.

FOR—529.

AGAINST—164.

Total Votes Polled—693, or 61% of the members.

Majority FOR—365, or 76% of the total votes cast.

THE MAY MEETING.

An excellent programme was arranged for May 15th, with three pleasant alternatives. About 60 persons took the opportunity of visiting Croydon Aerodrome and seeing London's Air Port under working conditions, where some members of the party took short flights. The tour of the new premises at the Central Library and of the Whitgift Hospital attracted a large party, whilst a smaller party rambled over the Downs and succeeded in losing themselves. All the parties united to take tea at the Ashburton Library, where about 130 were present. The Library was at once the delight and envy of all the visitors, for it is a fine building in a delightful setting.

The junior meeting was a record one, and Miss Kennedy's paper on "Jane Austen" was worthy of the occasion. Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers, Chief Librarian of Croydon, extended a characteristic welcome to over 150 persons assembled in the Lending Library. A delightful, witty and instructive paper on "The Library and the Librarian: past, present and future," was then delivered by Mr. H. A. Sharp, who outlined the development of the profession from its early days and sketched its possibilities in the future.

This was followed by a brisk and good-humoured discussion on the question of amalgamation with the Library Association; the feeling of the meeting seemed to be in favour of the scheme and was more concerned with details. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Croydon staff for their hospitality and the excellent way in which the day's programme was carried out. The proceedings terminated with dancing in the Junior Library.

H. T.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held at Bristol on Wednesday, June 5th, and proved perhaps the most memorable meeting of its kind in the history of the Association. The weather was the only disappointing feature of an otherwise entirely successful and happy day. But in spite of the quantity and persistence of the rain the pleasure of the 210 members who attended was little diminished. A party of 76 travelled down from London, 30 arrived from Birmingham and district, and representatives from Leeds, Cardiff, Southampton, Brighton, Worthing, Reading, Bath, Portsmouth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and other centres were also present. The Brighton Libraries Committee once again set a fine example to the rest of the country by sending an official delegate in the person of the Deputy Librarian, Mr. Male.

The crowded and varied programme was carried out in full, and not a detail was omitted. Any one of the items alone would have guaranteed the success of an ordinary meeting. Visits were paid to the Central Library, where the rich bibliographical treasures were skilfully displayed for the visitors' joy and envy. Here the Chairman of the Bristol Libraries Committee, Alderman Sheppard, C.B.E., M.A., gave the Association a welcome, the warmth of which was reflected in the rest of the day's adventures. Mr. Jackson, of Leeds, very happily responded. After a rapid but profitable visit to the Cathedral, under the guidance of Canon Narborough, lunch was served at the Berkeley Café, at the most courteous invitation of the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of Bristol, who presided. Many of the important figures in the civic and academic life of the city were also present. After lunch, His Worship expressed his pleasure at the visit of the Association to Bristol, and in the name of the city gave it a warm welcome. The President, Mr. Arthur Webb, replied in a witty and happy vein.

At the invitation of the Bristol Libraries staff the party was then taken in nine motor coaches for a tour of the city, during which, visits were made to the beautiful old church of St. Mary Redcliff, to the Bedminster Branch Library, and to the North District Library and Bindery. Then came the famous Durdham Downs and Avon Gorge, with its rightly renowned stretches of beautiful scenery. Here Mr. W. W. Jervis, M.Sc., of the Bristol University, gave a most informative account of the geological formation of the country. The tour ended at the University, where the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Loveday, M.A., LL.D., received the members, and entertained them to tea. After tea, a visit under the guidance of Mr. Cox, the Sub-Librarian, was made to the University buildings. Last came the Annual Meeting, which, owing to the shortness of time left before having to leave Bristol, was a very hurried affair.

Sincerest thanks are due to all those who contributed to the success of this most enjoyable day, but above all to Alderman Sheppard and to Mr. James Ross, the Deputy Librarian of Bristol. The hospitality of the former will be long remembered; our members' appreciation of the pleasant results of the latter's efforts to make the day memorable can be exaggerated only with difficulty. In addition to organising the day's activities, in itself no mean task, Mr. Ross managed to add a deeply appreciated pleasure to the meeting by arranging the production of a most exquisite menu and a beautifully printed programme.

Those who have the privilege of knowing Mr. Ross, know also that this is characteristic of him, and for some, the delicate beauty of the *Laboureur* engraving on the menu will long be a most pleasant reminder of an enjoyable occasion.

The Association is very deeply indebted to the Lanston Monotype Corporation, Ltd., for their generosity in producing this fine programme for the Association. Set in two type designs which are exclusive to the Corporation—Monotype Poliphilus Roman and Blado Italic—the production was worthy of the great name the Corporation has built up since the war, and will prove a permanent pleasure to those interested in typography. We must also thank Mr. Douglas Cleverdon, the well-known bookseller and publisher, of 18, Charlotte Street, Bristol, for permitting the use of the *Laboureur* engraving on the menu.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES.

The attention of all assistants is drawn to the fact that a **Revision Course** in preparation for the Library Examina-

tion, December, 1929, will be run by this Association on similar lines to that of last year. While this Course is primarily intended for those students who have taken a full course but failed in the May Examinations, it is not confined to them. Students who have been studying alone or who have dropped their studies for some little while will find this Revision Course an admirable method of co-ordinating and systematising their knowledge. The Course will consist of six fortnightly lessons and one test paper, and will run from September 2nd to November 25th. Applications from students in the Divisions should be made to the Divisional Secretaries, from isolated or London members direct to Miss Exley, St. Marylebone Public Library, Gloucester Place, London, W.1. All applications whether forwarded by the Secretaries or direct, must reach Miss Exley not later than **Saturday, August 24th**. The fee is 7/6, and the other rules and regulations are similar to those governing the full course.

Students are reminded that the last full length Course to be organised by the A.A.L. as a separate Association will run from October, 1929, to April, 1930. Full details of this Course will appear in the next Journal.

Students wishing to take either of these Courses must be members of the Association of Assistant Librarians, and must be eligible to sit for L.A. Examinations.

***PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.**

By R. COOPER (Battersea Public Libraries).

The first remarks of a newly-elected President should be to return thanks to the Association for his election, and I therefore offer you my sincerest thanks for having elected me to fill this position for the ensuing year.

At the same time I am going to admit at once that, while fully conscious of the honour you are conferring on me, I have very mixed feelings concerning your part of the bargain. I have some very definite ideas as to the qualities required of one in order to fill this office adequately, and I have another very definite idea that your humble servant lacks nearly all of them.

When your Hon. Secretary told me one evening of his intention to nominate *me* for this position, I smiled and told him to "try again." Perhaps some of you know, however, the persistence of that gentleman, and the effect of his caustic pen. I learned it the next day when I received, on paper, the most cutting chastisement it has been my lot to receive since

*Delivered at the 34th Annual Meeting, held at Bristol, 5th June, 1929.

school days. "Duty" was written all over it in large capitals—I gave in. At the end of the ensuing year you shall judge who was right. Knowing perfectly well that I lack the spontaneous flow of eloquence of a Gurner Jones and the gentle and persuasive diplomacy of a Benson Thorne, to say nothing of the tact and patience exhibited during the past year by your last President, I nevertheless claim one, though only one, of the qualities I conceive to be essential in a President; that is, enthusiasm for the profession to which we are all proud to belong, the keenest interest in this Association and the well-being of its members—especially the younger members.

At this stage of the day's proceedings I am sure you do not wish me to discourse at length on the history of our profession in general and this Association in particular, especially as the latter constitutes a very large proportion of the former during the last thirty years, and which is to most of you, quite familiar. Therefore I propose to be brief, and would, if possible, emulate the schoolboy in a story related by Dean Inge, who, when returning to school after the holidays and being told by his father to be brief and to the point in his letters to him, as he was too busy to read lengthy epistles, sent the following about mid-term—"S.O.S., L.S.D., R.S.V.P." But as your Hon. Secretary has decreed 20 minutes for the President's address, that is impossible.

A good deal of progress has been made in the development of libraries and the profession of librarianship during the thirty-four years which cover the history of this Association, and we can rightly claim to have played our part. Almost from its inception this Association clamoured for means of self-education and professional training, and the keenness of its early members, many of whom are now the shining lights of the profession, insured the success of the early educational schemes of the Library Association, in turn to form the basis of our present system of professional training.

Nor was this the only outlet for these early energies. Our net was flung far and wide for meeting places where new methods had been installed; every member eager to see new systems, to criticise and hear others criticise them and then to store the sum total in his or her mind against the great day when "opportunity" unlocked these store-houses and enabled theories to be tested in practice, in their turn to provide the new theories for still more advancement.

But the past is behind us, its value is to point the way in the present and the future, to avoid its mistakes and to carry forward all that has proved to be good; the idealism, the

enthusiasm, the devotion of those early members should be an inspiration to us, impelling us forward, inspiring us to continue building upon the foundations so well and truly laid by them.

What of the present? As we review the position of libraries to-day, can we be content with things as we see them? Surely not. Public libraries are certainly more recognised to-day as a part of the educational system of the country, as witness an article in the "Times" Educational Supplement, dealing with a conference on Adult Education, held at Edinburgh last year, in which it was stated: "A man constantly finds himself interested in some topic about which he is anxious to procure further enlightenment. Now in this respect the services of newspapers, including periodicals of all kinds, and of libraries is simply invaluable. Broadcasting may also supply a stimulus or hints for guidance. But the man or woman who wants to master the subject must do so for himself, and that chiefly by the aid of books. *The real educator of such adults as seriously pursue education, is the public library.*"

Recognition such as this reveals that we have travelled some distance beyond the old idea that public libraries provided only fiction, but much more needs to be done ere we can be satisfied with the place accorded to libraries in the educational system.

Dr. Locke, in a paper at the Edinburgh Conference of 1927, said that the library is deemed *subordinate* to the school in the education of the child, but he held that they are co-ordinate elements in the educational process, that whereas the aim of the school was advancement in the mass, the library provided the opportunity of enabling the individual to free himself from the mass and to rise to the heights of which he is personally capable.

At this stage let us pause and consider. Are we equipped at this moment to discharge the duties that are implied by the two authorities just quoted? Do the shelves of our libraries as a whole yet contain either the right quantity of the right quality of books to enable us fully to meet the demands made upon us? Regretfully, I think not. Exceptions there are, of course, and from what we have witnessed here to-day, no one will deny that the library system of the City of Bristol is one of them; but in a large number of cases our shelves still contain a considerable percentage of the initial stocks, hurriedly collected to make a show, with which our libraries opened many years ago. Much of this material, poor and old when

acquired, is now absolutely dead stock, rarely, if ever, issued, and its presence largely justifies the remarks often heard from the public, "Same old books, nothing new in."

Further, are the present stocks, such as they are, being exploited to their fullest extent, or the money available for books, insufficient as we know it to be, being used to the greatest advantage? Are we not rather still very much in the position in which I once, years ago, heard the Rt. Hon. Sidney Webb describe the public libraries of London, "28 separate heaps of books, each having no connection with the heap next to it, and each one striving to out-do the others in size."

The year 1927 may perhaps be described among librarians as a year in the clouds. Idealism loomed large in the report of the Departmental Committee on Public Libraries of that year, and at the Edinburgh Conference the slogan was "A National Library Service." Two years have passed, yet how many of those ideals are even beginning to break on our horizon? The principal recommendation of the Government Committee, that of a grant to the Central Library for Students, though small enough was the sum named, has not yet materialised, and the co-operation of individual libraries with each other has still a long journey to go ere we can visualise regional systems on a voluntary basis.

Take another instance of how far short we are at present from meriting the term "national"—or "unified," or even anything other than distinctly parochial—and one which some of us have watched with at least an impersonal interest. Two advertisements recently appeared in adjacent positions in a certain weekly paper, each emanating from a library authority within a short distance of London, and curiously enough each required the services of a deputy librarian. Yet how differently those authorities valued their services. The one with the much larger rateable value and twice the population placed a value on them of about 70 to 75 per cent. of that which the other authority considered adequate. How this condition of things is to be avoided so long as the unrestricted local control of libraries exists, as recommended in the Departmental Committee's Report, it is difficult to see, and, as the report later states that "the trained librarian should be paid no less than the trained teacher," something on the lines of the "Burnham Scale" seems to be badly needed.

Some of you will be thinking by now, probably, that I am the "complete pessimist," but I can assure you that this is not so. If I have drawn attention to-day to things as they exist, it is only to indicate a line of action to this Association, to

outline, briefly, some of the things to which our efforts should be directed. We, who pride ourselves on being the driving force in the profession, must carry on the tradition of our predecessors, must maintain and even excel, the enthusiasm and energy they displayed in furthering adult education through libraries, and keep ever before us the high ideal of a really national library service as part of a national education system.

One of the requirements of first importance for this purpose is an adequate, well selected and, above all, up-to-date stock of books. No scheme of propaganda, no publicity crusade can succeed in *permanently* increasing the usefulness of our libraries unless we are able to "deliver the goods." Do not think I am unaware of, or depreciate, the uses of publicity and propaganda in the direction indicated. They should certainly form part of our programme. I am here only stressing the point that our stocks must be improved in order to meet the increased demand which will result, and there is no better means by which a library can obtain publicity than by providing on its shelves a sound and adequate collection of books. This is emphasised in the recently issued 15th Report of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, in which it is stated, "Improvements (such as Open Access, Children's Departments, etc.) coupled with the largely increased supply of books, are found to lead immediately to a striking increase in local interest as indicated by the issue figures." It continues by quoting statistics of various places where grants for books have been made, and then proceeds, "These figures clearly establish the contention that the reading public responds at once to increased book provision and amply justifies library authorities (and the Trustees) in adopting a forward policy." With such an authoritative statement as that, need one say more? It follows then, that our book funds must receive more generous consideration at the hands of library authorities in order that stocks may be improved, and if the net book problem is solved in favour of a discount being given to libraries, care must be taken that estimates for books do not reflect a corresponding decrease. This may seem an unnecessary warning, but I am convinced that in places the danger is a real one.

Close co-operation between library systems is another desideratum, and I welcome the news of the serious attempt in this direction recently inaugurated by a number of libraries in the Eastern Counties. Much more, very much more, might be done by adjacent authorities to put their resources at each other's disposal. If this were brought about it should have

a certain effect in awakening a backward authority to a sense of its responsibility, in seeing what a progressive district next to it provides for its people, as it certainly should not be content to be always borrowing from its neighbour and have nothing to lend in return. At present, for instance, one district may have a good reference library, while that next to it is content with one hardly worthy of the name. More co-operation between libraries and a greater knowledge of each others' resources would, I believe, have the effect of bringing about more equal provision in each district and by interchange of purchase lists or bulletins, duplication could be considerably reduced, to the public gain.

These facts, I am aware, have been voiced in and by our professional associations from time to time, but if success has not yet been reached, is that any cause for relaxing our efforts? Rather, I think, should we seek with greater insistence and energy to achieve these results. The principal object of a professional association is to ignite the spark of enthusiasm in those it counts among its members, and fan it into a steady flame, to the ultimate good of the profession concerned.

Our Association should be to us a means of inspiration, and as such we should cherish it accordingly. The knowledge we gain and the help received by this means we should regard as a debt on our part to our Association, to be repaid later by service, whereby others may gain and in their turn render service to a later generation.

This I regard as the true spirit of association, and I am glad to say that in the Annual Report of the Council, which you have just adopted, this spirit is fully revealed. Our membership has increased considerably during last year, despite the fact that when I have seen the Hon. Treasurer looking more serious than usual at Council meetings, it generally transpired that he had to report a number of resignations. Our present figure of 1,101, by far the highest recorded, is a matter for self-congratulation when we find that only in 1922, our total was 593; almost 100 per cent. increase in 7 years. But I would that that last poor solitary "one" had 99 companions, making our total 1200. However, let us make it our business to attain this figure before the next annual report appears.

Further, there is evidence of service in the number of volumes issued from the Association's Library—992 volumes issued last year to 92 members, and I am reminded that only as far back as 1927 the figure was 506 volumes to 55 members,

and still your Hon. Librarian is always demanding more additions to the Library in spite of the fact that this larger stock will increase her work of recording, tying up and despatching still more books to meet the needs of our members.

Read through the Council's Report which you have just adopted, the work of all the officers, from the President downwards, no less than 18 journeys from Brighton to London has your ex-President made on your business during the last year, and rarely has he commenced his return journey before 10 p.m. Read the report carefully, and you will be surprised to find how every paragraph, every line, breathes the spirit of service on the part of your officials as a whole, service freely and whole-heartedly rendered for the welfare of this Association and for the intellectual and material advancement of its members.

This is the spirit that membership of an Association such as ours, creates and fosters in the individual, and as long as this spirit is maintained and developed in our Association, I have no fears regarding its future.

Now I would address a word especially to the juniors. You have been engaged in libraries for perhaps a year or two and have occasionally wondered during that time, what the future holds for you. I would ask you in return, what do you expect of the future? Do you expect to amass a goodly proportion of this world's "shekels?" If so, pause. Sir Philip Gibbs, the famous novelist, war correspondent and journalist, in his "Adventures in Journalism," states, "As, traditionally, nobody has ever seen a dead donkey, so nobody has ever seen a retired reporter, living on the proceeds of his past toil, like business men in other adventures of life." To that I would add, neither has anyone, past or present, ever seen or heard of a librarian who made a fortune by the adventure of librarianship.

But there are other and greater things than the amassing of wealth, things that provide, often, far more abiding happiness. To be occupied in work of an absorbing interest, work that is also education, the knowledge that your work is providing enlightenment to your fellows, and helping to develop in them true culture and citizenship; these things will contribute to the true happiness which you can, if it calls you, derive from the profession you have adopted. At the present moment you may think that some of your work is dull and tedious, but I would remind you that there is such a thing as "pride in work well done," and satisfaction in the very fact

that you have put your all into the execution of every task, however trivial, that is allotted to you.

Thus, and only thus, will you attain character, conceive a lofty ideal, and in striving towards your ideal, develop self control which is one of, and perhaps the greatest, asset of man. In this way you will earn the respect of your fellows, be a credit to the profession you have adopted and above all, be a happy man or woman.

The Lord Mayor of London, the other day, expressed this point very aptly when, at a function for children, a small boy touched his arm and said, "How, Sir, can I become Lord Mayor of London?" The Lord Mayor's prompt reply was, "Think great things, work hard, and make other people want you." If that is the curriculum for the training of Lord Mayors, it should also help in the evolution of great librarians.

No presidential address would be complete, in the present circumstances, without a few words of comment upon the vote on amalgamation with the Library Association, the result of which you have already heard. The short space of time since that result was made known to me has not been sufficient for me to forecast, much less to explain in detail, the changes which necessarily it will cause. We have decided to merge our individuality into that of the Library Association in order to achieve the ideal of one united association for librarianship. To that end we are surrendering our independence and all that it means and has meant to us for 34 years; we recognise that an association is subordinate to the object for which it exists; and I would appeal to all members to accept the decision arrived at by the majority and to continue to support and serve the A.A.L. as a section of the Library Association, with the same loyalty, zeal and enthusiasm they have shown in the past.

To the Library Association I would say—we accept your proposals for amalgamation as a contribution to the attainment of one strong, powerful and progressive association, whose object is the promotion, organisation and development of librarianship and the public library service of this country, and as long as this purpose is held steadfastly before the united association, it will be supported to the utmost of its powers by the Association of Assistant Librarians' Section.

THE DIVISIONS. **SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.**

On the 8th May, Winchester provided hospitality for the members. Visitors came from Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Poole and Southampton.

The party met at 3 p.m., and walked by the riverside path to St. Catherine's Hill. A few members did not display the energy of those who climbed to the top of the hill; but all enjoyed a pleasant walk—and a jolly tea, for which they had considerable appetite.

It was agreed at the meeting, that, as last year, one member from each town in the Division would be subsidised to the extent of 50 per cent. of the cost of attending the annual meeting.

Another new member from Poole was elected, which makes the Dorset town 100 per cent. members.

Mr. Smith (Portsmouth) regretted that lectures had recently been provided by folk from outside the Association. He said it was preferable to encourage members to supply papers. The Chairman (Mr. Bryant) announced the Division's desire for efforts from members, and advised intending contributors to communicate with the Secretary.

A Magazine Evening followed. Twelve papers were read by Mr. Pepper. The result of a ballot showed that "Are we Green," by "Primrose Bentwhistle" (Mr. Mourant)—had won the prize, a book.

A good meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Pepper and the Winchester staff, for their hospitality; proposed by Mr. C. Davis and seconded by Mr. Carver.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The third meeting of the session was held at Liverpool on Wednesday, May 15th. About 50 members and friends assembled at the Reference Library, William Brown Street. During the afternoon a visit was paid to the R.M.S. "Regina," berthed in the new Gladstone Dock, by the kind invitation of the White Star Line management. The "Regina" is a triple screw vessel of 16,500 tons, and with the sister ships "Doric" and "Laurentic" maintains the Company's Liverpool-Canada service. Afternoon tea was very kindly served in the luxuriously appointed lounge.

The party was later entertained to tea in the Walker Art Gallery by the Liverpool Branch.

The meeting was held in the Hugh Frederick Hornby Library (by kind permission of G. T. Shaw, Esq., M.A., Chief Librarian), the President (Miss D. McLardy) in the chair.

Mr. Shaw, who is retiring from the Chief Librarianship of the Liverpool Public Libraries, addressed the meeting and set out to answer the question, "Would he choose Library work if he were beginning his career again?"

Mr. Shaw reviewed the developments of Library work during the past fifty years, and considered the probable developments in the future. In the past men drifted into Library work rather than started out with the intention of becoming Librarians. To-day special training is required, and people adopt Librarianship as a profession. Everybody is not suited for Library work, but for those who are, though the prizes are few, there are assured positions. Fully realising these facts, Mr. Shaw stated that he would be prepared to take up Library work if he were beginning his career again.

He described the various ways in which Assistants should gather knowledge that would help them in their work, and suggested a scheme which would enable Assistants to travel and see the Libraries and interesting places at home and abroad. An interesting discussion followed.

Votes of thanks to Mr. Shaw for his address, to the Liverpool Branch for entertainment and splendid arrangements, and to the White Star Line, were carried with acclamation.

EASTERN COUNTIES DIVISION.

The Eastern Division paid their first visit to Cambridge on Thursday, June 6th, when a very enjoyable meeting was held. The programme was arranged entirely by Mr. W. A. Fenton, M.A., the Borough Librarian of Cambridge, to whose hospitality the success of the meeting was largely due. Representatives attended from Lowestoft, Norwich, Great Yarmouth, and Ipswich, members from all except the latter place travelling by char-a-banc from Norwich. On arriving at Cambridge, the party were received at the Central Library by Mr. Fenton, who had arranged a comprehensive tour of the town during the afternoon. Visits were paid to the Ethnological Museum and to the Fitzwilliam Museum—the treasures of modern art in the latter being particularly admired—and the party then proceeded to view some of the most interesting of the Colleges, under the able guidance of Mr. Fenton and two of his assistants, Messrs. Buttress and Cable. For most of the members this was their first visit to Cambridge, and great admiration was expressed at the beauty of the Colleges, and especially the magnificent King's College Chapel.

Tea was served at the Dorothy Café, by kind invitation of Mr. Fenton, who had yet another attractive item on his programme—a visit to the boat races, Eights Week being in full swing. The party was fortunate in witnessing a very exciting race, which provided a unique and thrilling climax to a most enjoyable day, which everything but the weather had combined to make completely successful. A very hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Miss Alexander (Norwich), and seconded by Miss Bailey (Lowestoft), was accorded to Mr. Fenton for his generous hospitality and for the ready way in which he had undertaken to arrange the programme for the day.

MARY ALEXANDER (Hon. Sec.)

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

Annual Meeting to be held at Hastings on Wednesday, July 10th, 1929.

PROGRAMME.

- 2.0 p.m. Meet at Brassey Institute, Hastings.
- 2.15 p.m. Motor Drive, by kind invitation of Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield, to Winchelsea and Rye. Visit Church, Mermaid Street, etc.
- 4.0 p.m. Tea at Peacock Tea Rooms, Lion Street, Rye, by kind invitation of Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield.
- 4.45 p.m. Return journey inland through Battle to Hastings.
- 6.0 p.m. Committee Meeting at the Museum, John's Place.
- 6.30 p.m. General Business Meeting.

Will all those intending to be present kindly notify Miss E. Clark, Public Library, Brassey Institute, Hastings **not later than** Wednesday, July 3rd.

SHORT NOTICES.

The Central Library for Students: 13th Annual Report, 1928-29.

This report is distinguished by its good printing and its simple and lucid composition. It is a record of unique activity reflecting the greatest credit on the Librarian and Staff of the Central Library. It is

common knowledge that the Committee have had to face serious financial difficulty. This would be a matter for great regret even if the work performed and the demands made on the Library were pursuing a level course. But with the contrary the case, with the demands on staff, books and facilities increasing in number and complexity almost every month the position is lamentable. The Secretary of the Board of Education for 1928, although verbally very much in favour of the Central Library, had to ignore its pressing claims. With Sir Charles Trevelyan back to his former place in the Cabinet it should surely not be long before we hear that the long-delayed recognition by the State of this indispensable institution has at last been granted.

The report extends to 40 pages. We feel sure that Col. Newcombe could have filled 100 pages with an account of the activities of the Library.

It should be generally known that the Central Library now possesses, through the generosity of the Carnegie Trust, a set of the 90 volumes so far published of the catalogue of the Bibliothèque Nationale; that as soon as an adequate income allows it, the library will develop two new departments—an Information Department and a Union Catalogue Department; that it is on the point of taking over the Enquiry Office of the Joint Standing Committee on Library Co-operation; that the Outlier Libraries contain no less than 3,406,000 volumes; and that it is hoped that it will be possible in the near future for the Central Library to extend its work to link up with centres of Bibliographical Information in foreign countries.

These are no visionary schemes spun from the Utopian mind of a bibliographical dreamer, but practical suggestions and developments which have been clearly envisaged by those responsible for the control of the Central Library. It is estimated that a mere £12,000 a year would enable all of these schemes to be put into practice. Hardly the price of the screws used in building a new battleship! Surely 1930 will see an end to the present state of affairs.

Reports and Bulletins have also been received from Chelsea, Walthamstow, Blackburn, Bootle, Darlington, Gateshead, Halifax, Huddersfield, Ipswich, Leeds, Norwich, Rotherham, Salford, Stretford, Wallasey, Waterloo-with-Seaforth and Fulham, Port Elizabeth and Boston (U.S.A.).

These are acknowledged with thanks. Regretfully we are unable to devote the space to them that they deserve, for almost all of them record notable activities. We must also call attention to the general improvement in format and printing. This is a good sign indeed, and one which we have long been waiting for.

Books and Readers: Monthly Bulletin of the Sheffield Public Libraries.

This bulletin calls for special mention because it stands out of a hundred of its kind by reason of its comely appearance, and its contents. In the first place it records the possession by Sheffield of beautiful and important books which must cry aloud for adequate housing. Thanks to Alderman Graves this will not be long forthcoming. The Constable reprint of *Vathek*, Hegel's *Science of Logic*, Heiberg's Monumental edition of Euclid, the magnificent Shakespeare Head edition of North's Plutarch, and volume ten of the Tudor Church Music Series, are only a few of the outstanding items we should like to mention here.

The Chimney Corner, Number 1.

From Leeds we have received the first Children's Bulletin we have seen from any library. An edition of 10,000 copies was printed, and distributed gratis. An important innovation like this deserves great praise.

Library Review. Summer Number. (Atlas Works, Coat-bridge, Scotland).

Contents: Getting the best out of fiction, by Jonathan Nield; South Africa from the library angle, by Milton J. Ferguson; Kent County Library, by A. S. Cooke; Books for the travellers, by H. V. Morton, etc., etc.

Bethnal Green. Catalogue of the Books, published during 1928, which were added to the libraries.

A graph of the yearly issues which is printed on the cover of this 100 page catalogue shows a very rapid and sometimes amazingly steep rise from 50,000 volumes in 1920 to nearly half-a-million in 1928. From the "London Statistics" volume published by the L.C.C. it has been discovered that more books are annually issued from Bethnal Green than from any other single library building in London. It is well that the graph is issued with the catalogue, for the two are not disconnected. The reason for the phenomenal rise of the issues (phenomenal without exaggeration if it is granted that an East End public deprived of a Municipal Library until 1919 can hardly have been a very literate public to work upon) is to be found in the wide and varied selection made from the year's publications. There are some strange omissions, it is true, but in general, it would be a very cantankerous public that refused to be pleased with the books of 1928 here offered for their pleasure and profit. We would question the wisdom of retaining the dictionary form of catalogue for a publication of this kind, however, for the innumerable cross-references which have to be repeated year after year are wasteful; furthermore a classified list would show if the book selection was well-balanced and scientific, an aid to the librarian and also, we might add, to the critic.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor, THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT.

Dear Sir,—For good or ill, Amalgamation is now *un fait accompli*. Whether we voted for or against Union, it is a first charge upon the conscience of every A.A.L. member to abide by the decision and loyally support the United Association. This does not imply disloyalty to the A.A.L. or the abandonment of interest in its special work for the welfare of the Assistant Librarian. The United Association may serve the interests of the assistant quite efficiently, provided due thought be given by all A.A.L. members to the next Annual Election of Officers and Council of the L.A.

The importance of this election in so far as it concerns the future welfare of the humble assistant cannot be too heavily stressed, as reference to Sections B.1-5 of the Bye-Laws will show. On this occasion only—and not afterwards—six London and Fifteen Country Councillors, in addition to the Officers and Six sectional representatives, are to be elected. As a section, the A.A.L. automatically receives two seats (on the Council of 37); all members, whether transitional or otherwise, should remember when the time comes that they have a vote in the

making of this Council, and see to it, by nominating and voting carefully, that they place in the non-sectional seats a majority of those who are sincerely interested in their point of view. As the election is by secret ballot, coercion from the powers in the land should have no effect on the results of the poll, provided every assistant votes for the candidate who, in his opinion, honestly has his interests at heart and is not concerned with every scheme of personal aggrandisement or the desire to dip deeper into the assistant's pocket.

Reference to the last sentence of the last paragraph of Bye-Law B5 will show that a certain restriction is placed upon the number of nominations of members of Special Sections, but it should not be an insurmountable task to pack the new Council with those who, though not members of any Section, have shown by their public record that they have the interests of the assistant at heart and will give him a square deal. I differentiate most strongly between those genuinely concerned in the welfare of the Association and its members and those who would seek a position of honour on the Council for the sake of its advertising value in the eyes of Employing Committees.

My excuse for this diatribe, Mr. Editor, is that in common with all those who have the welfare of the profession at heart, I would like to see the Council of the United Society started on straight lines, free from any suspicion of jobbery. More than one provincial member of the A.A.L., enabled for the first time to meet a representative selection of the A.A.L. Council and its members at the Bristol meeting, and anxious to air his views on these lines, was—some might say fortunately—nipped in the bud by the wild dash for trains. Nevertheless, they are convinced that the hilarious attitude and the attitudinising so useful to our petty politicians should not be allowed to impose upon our members at the forthcoming election.

"Empty vessels make the most noise." Let this be remembered at the election; let votes be cast not for names, however resounding, whether in the L.A. or A.A.L., but for candidates known to the voter (by personal contact if possible), who have distinguished themselves in local library politics for their common sense and moderation, and who do not consider the interests of the Library Assistant of necessity run counter to those of the Library Association.

Yours faithfully, C. M. JACKSON.

P.S.—May I suggest, as a matter of convenience with regard to travelling allowances, that the two A.A.L. Sectional Council seats be allotted to the Provinces, and the three Committee seats be allotted to London?

The Editor, THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT.

Sir,—In the *Library World* for May, Mr. Guy Keeling, the Secretary of the Library Association, refers to our letter in the last issue of the *Library Assistant* as containing "several serious mis-statements regarding the Library Association." Mr. Keeling is guilty of a serious mis-statement himself in saying this, as of the points referred to in his letter, two were never mentioned by us, one he has garbled by the old and shabby political trick of incomplete quotation; and in the other he has interpreted a plain statement of ours to mean something which no intelligent person would read in it. We take his four points in order:

1. "That the Registration fee is a single payment of 10s. 6d.—made but once in a lifetime."

We did not suggest that this is any other than a single payment, but whether paid in the first year or any other year, it must be con-

sidered as an additional payment to the Association for that particular year.

2. "That no one need apply to have their (sic) name entered on the Register unless he or she wishes."

As we made no mention at all of this point we would be glad to be enlightened by Mr. Keeling as to where a mis-statement occurs! Nevertheless only registered members will be allowed to use F.L.A. or A.L.A., and if members, by failing to register, forego this privilege, what other reason is there for joining the Library Association other than to receive the *Record* as published?

3. "The Hon. Secretary of this Association in his article on 'The New Bye-Laws and why they are necessary' never suggested that the minimum subscription to the L.A. may be raised to a guinea and a half. What he did say, when speaking of the grading of subscriptions was, 'I wish that the Council had made a guinea and a half subscription for librarians earning £450 and under.'"

The actual sentence in the *L.A. Record* for December, 1928, p. 265, reads: "*Some wish that the Council had made a guinea and a half subscription for librarians earning £450 and under; and before long the chalk may mark this change.*" If this is not tantamount to a suggestion that the minimum subscription to the L.A. may be raised to a guinea and a half it does not mean anything. If Mr. Keeling desires to quote, let him quote with sufficient fulness to express accurately the meaning of the sentence.

4. "The writers of the letter overlook the proposal made in paragraph 6 of the plan providing for a category of Transitional Members who 'shall continue to pay the subscriptions which are demanded from members of the A.A.L. at the date of this agreement.'"

We did not overlook the proposal referred to, neither did we overlook the agreement in paragraph 7 that "*it shall be part of the policy of the new Section to persuade Transitional Members to become Members of the Library Association under Bye-laws A3 to A6.*"

If a large body of library assistants viewed with suspicion the recently expressed affection of the L.A. for the A.A.L., how much larger and how much more suspicious is that body going to be when they find the Secretary of the L.A. misleading them as to the purport of a statement by another official of the same association for the purpose of scoring a temporary debating point.

We call the attention of your readers to the extraordinary action of the Secretary of the L.A., in replying to a letter in the *Library Assistant* by one in the *Library World*. The possibility of an early distribution of voting papers to members of the A.A.L. probably provides the reason for Mr. Keeling's action. We leave to the judgment of members of the A.A.L. the merits of this controversy.—Yours faithfully,

SIDNEY A. FIRTH, H. W. MARR.

The Editor, THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT,

AMALGAMATION.

Dear Sir,—Messrs. Firth and Marr, in their opposition to Union, are not careful to be correct, and are careless whether they are unfair or not.

They add the Registration Fee to the Annual Subscription. This is unfair (1) because the fee is paid once, when a man is registered as F.L.A., or A.L.A., (2) because nobody need be registered unless he wishes

to be, and (3) because anybody who wishes to be registered will be required to pay that fee whether Union takes place or not, whether he is a librarian or an assistant.

I did not say that "in the near future the minimum subscription to the L.A. may be raised to a guinea and a half." It is true that I wrote perhaps too concisely: "Some wish that the Council had made a guinea and a half subscription for librarians earning £450 and under," but from all that preceded this statement it is clear that I meant to recommend a subscription of one guinea and a half for all those earning from £300 to £450. I should like to see another grade to avoid the jump from one guinea to two. In other words, I recommend a further reduction for one class of members rather than an increase.

Messrs. Firth and Marr state that subscriptions may be raised by the L.A. Council at any time. They are wrong. Only the Association can alter subscriptions; and, if amalgamation takes place, the A.A.L. section will have a powerful voice on such questions. It is not likely that the present Association, which has just decreased the subscriptions, will raise them again unless they are compelled to do so by unforeseen circumstances. It is still more unlikely that the United Association will consent to an increase. The World War was necessary to raise subscriptions ten or eleven years ago.

Messrs. Firth and Marr forget the transitional members, who, under the plan of union, retain their membership of the L.A. and the A.A.L. by continuing to pay the subscriptions they pay now. This is an unfair, if convenient, omission.

Under the plan the A.A.L. will enjoy full self-government, a guaranteed income, a guarantee to keep its present property intact, and increased representation upon the governing body of the L.A. In return for this the L.A. does not ask for money, but for assistance in the work necessary to further our common aims. If this is not a square deal, I must confess that I do not know what a square deal is.

Yours faithfully, ERNEST A. SAVAGE.

(The above correspondence was unfortunately received too late for insertion in the June issue owing to the early date on which publication took place.—Hon. Editor.)

POEMS FROM A PRIVATE ANTHOLOGY.

VI.

Satan, no woman, yet a wandering spirit,
When he saw ships sail two ways with one wind,
Of sailors' trade he hell did disinherit—
The Devil himself loves not a half-fast mind.
The satyr, when he saw the shepherd blow
To warm his hands and make his porridge cool,
Manhood forswore, and, half a beast, did know
Nature with double breath is put to school.
Cupid doth head his shafts in women's faces,
Where smiles and tears dwell ever near together,
Where all the arts of change give passion graces;
While these clouds threaten, who fears not the weather?
Sailors and satyrs, Cupid's knights and I
Fear women that swear "Nay!" and know they lie.

—FULKE GREVILLE, LORD BROOKE.

APPOINTMENTS AND OBITUARY.

- *CARNELL, Miss E. J., to be Assistant Librarian, Gloucester County Library. Salary £160, rising after two years by annual increments of £10 to £200 per annum. Cambridge Senior, six L.A. certificates, Pupil, Exeter City Library, 1922-25, Assistant, 1925-9.
- *HAINES, PAUL E., Senior Assistant, Watford Public Libraries, to be Chief Assistant, Southall. Salary £156 + £10—£208 per ann. One L.A. Certificate. (Also selected: Messrs. *R. P. Bateman, Stoke Newington; *A. W. McClellan, Tottenham).
- STALEY, GEORGE FREDERICK, Superintendent of Branches, Manchester Public Libraries, died on 10th May, in his 51st year. He was appointed an assistant in the Reference Library in 1892, afterwards becoming Librarian of the Ancoats and later of the Rusholme branch libraries, and since 1916 had been Superintendent of Branches. Mr. Staley has left a record of good work, faithfully and efficiently performed, and his colleagues regret the loss of one who had their confidence and sincere regard.
- *FRY, WALTER GEORGE, F.L.A., has been appointed Superintendent of Branches, Manchester Public Libraries, in succession to the late Mr. G. F. Staley.
- *FINNEY, A. H., Deputy Librarian, York, promoted to City Librarian on the retirement of Mr. A. H. Furnish. Salary, £400—£450 per ann.
- *LEGGATT, D. RUSSELL, Woking Public Library, to be Branch Librarian, Camberwell Public Libraries. Six L.A. Certificates, one "with merit." Salary, £245—£5—£260 per annum. The final selection included Messrs. Gold (Camberwell), and *Wright (Wandsworth).
- *SHERWOOD, J., Huddersfield Public Libraries, to be Senior Assistant, Mansfield. Three L.A. Certificates. Salary £156—£208 per annum. The final selection included *Miss F. Atkinson (Warrington), and *G. Boyles (Smethwick).
- *JACKA, Miss S. T. P., B.A., Senior Assistant, Preston, to be Chief Assistant, Ipswich. Six L.A. Certificates. Salary £175 per annum. (Also selected: *Miss M. S. Taylor, M.A., Coventry; *Miss H. A. Tillie, Chiswick).
- *JACKSON, O. A. G., Junior Assistant, Hammersmith, to be Junior Assistant, Bethnal Green. Matriculation Certificate. Salary £85—£100 per annum.

**Those marked with an asterisk are Members of the A.A.L.*

You will notice that all of the above appointments and selections went to members of the A.A.L. (with one exception), and to Assistants with L.A. Certificates or their equivalent. The same is true of the list in last month's issue.

You will find it difficult to obtain a good appointment without qualifying for Registration by the Library Association. **After January, 1930, you will not be allowed to enter for the examinations conducted by the Library Association unless you are a member of that body or of the Association of Assistant Librarians.**

JOIN NOW !

NEW MEMBERS:

Associate.—Florence P. Parrott (Bath).

Members.—Mary Crawford (Bath); Edith H. Adams, Vera A. Capar, Evan H. Ellis, Arthur J. Griffiths, Irene Hockridge, Arthur ap Gwynn, M.A., Eleanor Llewellyn, Sheila K. O'Brien, William H. Phillips, Godfrey C. Poole, Mary C. Power, Phyllis A. Roberts, Ella D. Rooksby, Stella Seaton, Ellis Sellick, Charles Sexton, Bertram Somers (Cardiff); Miss M. A. Corry (Reading); Annie J. Packer (Teddington); Charles F. A. Mormoy (University College).

Midland Division.—L. Inchley, N. E. McEvoy (Birmingham); R. Mathewman (Leicester).

Correction.—Miss Ivy Hill, whose name appeared in the annual roll of members as of Newton-in-Makerfield, should read Stretford.

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